

children go through the 4-H program for 24 straight years now—in fact, last year was our eighth and youngest child, Anna's first year in 4-H.

I congratulate 4-H on their centennial anniversary, and I wish them the best for their next 100 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL JOHN S. PARKER

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Maj. Gen. John S. Parker of the U.S. Army Medical Corps. Major General Parker has served our Nation for more than 39 years. He has distinguished himself and the Army Medical Command while serving in several positions of increasing responsibility. Major General Parker capped his illustrious career as Commander of the United States Army Medical Research and Material Command at Fort Detrick, MD.

During his extraordinary military service, General Parker has shaped every part of the Army Medical Department, from direct patient care, training, personnel management, and installation management, to doctrine development, policymaking, research and medical product development. His mark on military medicine extends far beyond the Department of Defense and into the international community.

We in the Senate saw the important work of Ft. Detrick in researching defenses against biological attacks when Senator DASCHLE received an anthrax-laden letter last October. Major General Parker's command responded by swiftly and accurately identifying the anthrax here on Capital Hill.

Major General Parker's service embodies the best traditions our military services have to offer. This soldier, statesman, scientist, and commander has displayed the highest level of commitment to our most precious resource, America's armed forces.

I thank John and his wife Julie for their tireless dedication to serving the United States and the Army. They have served our Nation with honor. I wish John and Julie well as they enter a new phase of their lives.●

TRIBUTE TO AGNES SCULLY FISTER

• Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Agnes Scully Fister, who died January 9, 2002, at the age of 85.

Agnes made it easy for people to remember her, leaving behind a legacy as a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She was a unique individual who cherished life, enjoyed going to church, and loved meeting and talking to people. She married Louis A. Fister and was blessed with a wonderful family that included four sons and two daughters. Agnes will be remembered for many different reasons, not the

least of which is her dedication to her family and friends.

A native of Kentucky, Agnes was born in Lexington to Ed and Sarah Scully. She graduated high school from St. Catherine's Academy and later went on to work as a children's clothing buyer for retail stores such as Purcell's, Embry's, Wolfe Wiles, McAlpins, and Tots 'n Teens.

Agnes was a devoted Catholic and a long-time member of St. Paul Catholic Church. St. Paul played a significant role in Agnes' life and is where she was baptized, received first Holy Communion, was confirmed, and married. Upon her passing away, St. Paul is also where her family and friends gathered to say their goodbyes and to celebrate her life.

I am certain the legacy left behind by Agnes Fister will live on. I offer my deepest condolences to her family, especially her children, 20 grandchildren, and 26 great grandchildren. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Agnes Scully Fister. She was an outstanding Kentuckian and will be missed.●

TRIBUTE TO DUANE HARRIS

• Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition and honor of my friend and an outstanding public servant, Mr. Duane Harris of St. Simons Island, GA. Duane will be retiring on April 1 of this year from his position as the Director, Coastal Resources Division, of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. His retirement comes after some three decades of service to the people of the State of Georgia and this Nation.

Duane has served in the very important position of Coastal Director since 1982, during a time of extraordinary challenge for the Department of Natural Resources. The Coastal Division encompasses all of our beautiful Golden Isles where we take great pride in our magnificent beaches, salt water and fresh water wetlands, and the living creatures that depend on those ecosystems for life itself.

In Georgia, as elsewhere in our Nation, the coastal area is where we find some of the greatest pressures for development and population growth, and the inevitable confrontation between those pressures and environmental protection. And in this difficult arena, Duane Harris has served with remarkable distinction.

Duane joined the Georgia DNR on July 1 of 1970. His service to the State's coastal resources through the years has been diverse and distinguished. In his initial job of Wildlife Biologist he worked in developing the baseline characterization of marine fisheries resources in Georgia, including assessing shrimp and blue crab stocks and formulating management decisions regarding harvest seasons in specific areas. He conducted a coast-wide inventory of Georgia's oyster resources and was one of the founders of Georgia's very pop-

ular Artificial Reef Program in the 1970's. He has championed that program's growth to a system that now consists of more than 30 inshore and offshore reefs, providing an essential marine habitat.

Duane was instrumental in the establishment and expansion of the Coastal Division's 24-hour on-call network, which has provided round-the-clock response to fish kill, sea turtle and marine mammal strandings since the 1980's. He has personally responded to numerous situations involving strandings and injured birds, sea turtles, and porpoises. Duane is the contact that local officials, the Coast Guard, Law Enforcement, and coastal citizens call upon when no one can be reached. He has also worked tirelessly as a volunteer for DNR's annual Weekend for Wildlife celebration since its inception in 1989.

Let me also note that Duane is not simply someone who works to enforce a rulebook. He is an innovative and thoughtful planner who helps shape new policies. For example, during the 1990's, he played a pivotal role in the passage of far-reaching legislation to benefit Georgia's unique coastal environment when he spearheaded the successful regulatory implementation of The Protection of Tidewaters Act, O.C.G.A. Sections 52-1-1 through 52-1-10, and the Right of Passage Act, O.C.G.A. 52-1-30 through 52-1-39, in 1992, culminating in the removal by 1999 of the last remaining river houses that were causing environmental degradation and other problems.

Duane worked very hard to provide information to local municipalities and county governments about the benefits of a federally-approved Georgia Coastal Management Program, and has assisted in the development of the Georgia Coastal Management Act, O.C.G.A. Section 12-5-320, in 1997, and its very successful implementation since that time.

Over the past 4 years, Duane Harris spearheaded the efforts to regulate driving on Georgia's remote barrier island beaches in a manner consistent with the Shore Protection Act. Duane took the lead on all required administrative procedures, facilitating a lengthy citizen advisory process initiated in August 1998. He formulated the resulting regulations to afford the needed protection to shorebirds, nesting sea turtles, and the fragile dune environment while accommodating the interests of legally-recognized property holders. This was a sensitive and controversial issue, for which he forged a reasonable system of regulation. Following adoption of these rules in December 1998, he worked to implement them prior to the onset of the 1999 sea turtle nesting season.

Duane recently led the deliberations of a diverse Marsh Hammocks Advisory Council in an examination of the issue of development of coastal marsh hammocks and back barrier islands. His regional and national conservation service includes serving as chairman of